

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the captioned application as amended herewith is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19, and 22 - 24 were amended to highlight novel features of the present invention. Support for these amendments may be found in the Specification as originally filed at, for example, page 3, line 29 - page 4, line 7; page 4, lines 14 - 22; and page 4, line 30 - page 5, line 5, and as such these amendments do not introduce new matter into the application.

Claims 5, 6, 9, 10, 18, 20, and 25 were cancelled without prejudice to the refiling of these claims in a continuation application. New claims 26 and 27 were added. Claims 1 - 4, 7, 8, 11 - 17, 19, 21 - 24, and 26 - 27 remain pending in this application after entry of this amendment.

It is submitted that the foregoing amendments and remarks place the case in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

In the event that all of the claims are not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request for an interview with the Examiner before the preparation of the next Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

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